

CURRENT COMMENT.

The British museum has thirteen miles of bookshelves all filled.

Butler county, Pa., has a genius who dreams the correct location of oil wells.

Near-sight is hereditary, but a larger percentage prevails among blondes than brunettes.

Among English people dark-brown hair is more than twice as common as hair of any other shade.

The Empress Eugenie paid 1,000 francs (\$200) per ounce for a braud of hair that exactly matched her own.

To be perfectly proportioned it is said that a man should weigh twenty-eight pounds for every foot of his height.

French reporters now take notes at night by the light of a tiny incandescent lamp attached to the pencil.

Miss M. G. Harris, of Venice, was present at forty-nine battles and skirmishes of the late civil war as a nurse.

At the present day sacred pigs trample about the Buddhist monasteries of Canton and elsewhere in China.

Queen Victoria has a book which is eighteen inches thick and weighs sixty-three pounds. It contains the "Fables" speeches and addresses.

Cats die at an elevation of sixteen thousand feet, but dogs and men can climb the greatest known natural elevations.

A copy of the original edition of "Plebe-wick," given by Dickens to Maecyred, has been sold for the late James McHenry's library for \$1 guineas.

Rev. John C. Burroughs, who for ten years was assistant superintendent of the Chicago city schools, is dead. Dr. Burroughs was born in Stamford, N. Y., in 1818.

Fishes are now sharpened by electricity. They are used in a liquid and the current turned on for twenty minutes, at the end of which time they come out as good as new.

Black snow lately fell in the Canton of Geneva, Switzerland—a phenomenon which was once thought to prefigure the black plague and other calamities, but is now known to be due to a fungus in the snow.

The only town in Africa that has the honor of being named from an American president is Monrovia, Liberia. It was founded in 1822 during the presidency of James Monroe and was named in his honor.

An Italian publisher got the opinions of 100 writers and scholars as to who are the best authors. The replies placed Darwin at the head of the list, Shakespeare next, with Schiller, Goethe and Humboldt following.

The daughter of the once famous artist Thackeray—Mrs. Thackeray—was who was herself once editor of the Domestic Magazine, is defendant in proceedings brought by her daughter and son-in-law, who wish her declared insane.

An eminent physician is reported as saying—and if true it ought to be generally known—"the best remedy for bleeding at the nose, is a vigorous remedy of the jaws as if in the act of mastication. In the case of a child a wad of paper should be placed in its mouth, and the child instructed to chew it hard. It is the motion of the jaws that stops the flow of blood."

Caracas has been the scene of some of the most interesting earthquakes on record. In that one of 1813 it is of record that the sun was visible in the pot of boiling mud, while terrific sounds were heard underground. The whole was in an instant a heap of ruins under which 10,000 of the inhabitants were buried. At an earlier earthquake the granite soil sank, leaving a lake from 250 to 300 feet deep.

Experiments in instantaneous photography have proved that the shots not only spread out comet-like, as they fly, but they string out one behind the other to a greater distance than they spread. Thus, with a cylinder gun, when the first shot of a charge reaches its target, that is, the target is the last shot is lagging along ten yards behind. Even with the choke-bore gun some of the shot will lag behind eight yards in forty.

In the month of March the collection of St. Peter's pence for the vatican was notably increased, the amount having been upwards of \$80,000, while the average monthly collections heretofore have not exceeded \$60,000. The pope's declaration by the vatican of its policy favorable to the French republic, France usually headed the list in the amount collected, but since that time it has sunk to the eighth place, the United States standing second.

The celebration of marriage, partly in churches and partly outside them, was first ordered by Pope Gregory in 1199. All the ancient missals direct that toward the conclusion of the service the parties shall enter the church as far as the step of the altar. The greater portion of the ceremony was performed in the south porch, still called in country districts the "wedding door." It was only in the reign of Edward VI. that the whole of the ceremony was allowed to be performed in the middle of the church.

Mr. Gladstone has written a pamphlet on the question of female suffrage in which he gives his reasons for opposing the enfranchisement of women. He considers that the question ought to be further discussed by the press and on the platform and that the time is not ripe for legislative interference. He notes as an objection that the woman suffrage bill excludes married women, equally or better qualified to exercise the franchise. He further contends that the sex largely opposes the proposed reform, which would open the question of the right of women to fill public office. He does not fear that woman would encroach upon the power of man, but he does fear "lest we unwittingly invite her to trespass upon purity, the delicacy and elevation of her own nature."

The wife of W. G. Oakland, who succeeded Mr. Inman as president of the Richmond terminal system, is a daughter of the late Roscoe Conkling. Mr. Oakland, who was only a division superintendent at the time of his marriage, has since risen rapidly in his profession.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Gleaned By Telegraph and Mail.

PERSONAL AND POLITICAL.

GEN. STANLEY, commanding the department of Texas, has reported to Gov. Schofield that the grand jury of Duval county, Texas, has ignored the charges against the United States troops and state troops in connection with the Garza campaign. The grand jury reported that they had investigated the charges and found absolutely nothing in them.

Mr. GLADSTONE has written a pamphlet in which he gives his reasons for opposing the enfranchisement of women. The republicans of Massachusetts and Pennsylvania met on the 20th and elected delegates to Minneapolis.

Gen. GEORGE GRAY, for many years general counsel of the northern Pacific railroad and one of the leading members of the New York bar, is dead.

EDWARD H. COWLEY, eldest son of the late Edwin Cowley, for years the editor of the Cleveland Leader, died at El Paso, Tex., where he had gone for his health. Mr. and Mrs. Cowley were well known in Cleveland.

The president has nominated Nathan O. Murphy, of Arizona, to be governor of Arizona, vice John N. Irwin, resigned. Mrs. FRANCIS DE BARRIOS, widow of the president of Guatemala, was married the other day to Senor Jose Martinez de Roda, a Spanish nobleman, at the magnificent residence of the bride, 555 Fifth avenue, New York. The ceremonies—for there were two, both civil and religious—were witnessed by only a few of the intimate friends of the bride and groom and yet it was one of the most brilliant weddings that has occurred in New York for years.

INDIANA Democrats in convention endorsed Grover Cleveland and made Gray the second choice.

News from Matto Grosso, Brazil, is to the effect that revolutionists intend to offer determined resistance to the government troops. All the steamers on the Panama river have been seized by the insurgents.

Twice the difficulties that have been encountered in constructing the Italian cabinet, all the members of the ministry which resigned, with the exception of Signor Colombo, minister of finance, met and decided to withdraw their resignations and remain in office. It was also decided to largely reduce the military expenditures and expenditures for the colonies.

PROF. SCHUMAS, professor of philosophy at Cornell university, has been offered the presidency of the university of California at Berkeley, Cal.

FUSHAGET, of Bochum, has commenced a suit against Prince Bismarck, asking damages for alleged libel. The action arises from expressions used by Prince Bismarck regarding the charges Herr Fushaghet made in 1890 against Bismarck, director of the great iron and steel association of Bochum. It was reported that the prince was so indignant on June 19, 1891, Fushaghet was imprisoned and sentenced to five months' imprisonment. The expressions then and afterward used by Prince Bismarck regarding the charges were the basis for the present action.

The counting of the votes polled in New Orleans at the general election held on the 19th has been completed, and the results are as follows: For governor, McEnery, 18,701; Foster, 11,780; Leonard, 5,670; Brau, 3,716; Tammelin, 74.

The national silver committee has decided to call a national bimetallic convention to meet in Washington on Thursday, May 20.

REPRESENTATIVE BRYAN, of Nebraska, has asked the house committee on appropriations to grant a hearing to a committee of the Grand Army of the Republic composed of Schenck, in opposition to the appropriation of \$100,000 for the entertainment of the Grand Army of the Republic at the encampment at Washington. Hearing will be accorded.

KISS HUNTER has accepted the resignation of Signor Colombo, minister of finance, and has temporarily filled the place of finance minister by the appointment of Signor Luzzatti, the minister of the treasury.

Accidents to private advices from Costa Rica show that Victor is in excellent health and has quite recovered from the depression due to the death of the duke of Clarence, which caused intense anxiety.

LONDON papers discredit the report that England has intimated a desire to the United States government to enter a naval conference.

This president and members of the executive committee of the farmers alliance of the various states are requested to meet in Birmingham, Ala., on May 3 for consultation.

A BANQUET was given at the American legation at Madrid by the Hon. E. Bredt, the American minister to Spain, to Senor Dupuy, the newly appointed minister to the United States.

The Chicago Blaine Club has adopted resolutions demanding that Blaine shall be the republican nominee, and urging similar action throughout the country to do likewise.

A DELEGATION of colored men waited on the president the other day in regard to lynchings in the south.

It is supposed that the Pinkerton detective agency is considering a plan for evading the agreement between the United States and Great Britain for the restriction of sealing in Behring sea.

WHITMAN, professor of zoology in Clark university, Worcester, Mass., has accepted a call to the head professorship in the department of biology in the university of Chicago.

At a meeting of the Chicago freight committee of the Central Traffic association it was voted to meet the rate on wool made by the Grand Trunk and its western connections from the Mississippi river to the seaboard and apply it by way of the Niagara river to the Chicago & Grand Trunk line.

JEROME GREENMAN, it is reported, was asked to accept the people's party nomination for president.

The delegates of the Thirteenth Illinois district unanimously re-nominated William M. Springer for congress.

A PARTY of cattlemen from Wyoming, having cattle thieves in Johnson hole, Idaho, the alleged rangers for all the cattle thieves for hundreds of miles, came upon the habitation of two parties known as Burnett and Spencer and in their efforts to arrest them, Burnett and Spencer were killed and it was found that they were in possession of over fifty stolen horses.

In the senate on the 27th the army appropriation bill was considered. In the house there was a discussion of the diplomatic and consular appropriation bills.

ENLOE AND RAUM.

The Tennessee Congressman and Pension Commissioner.

A PERSONAL ASSAULT ATTEMPTED.

Taking Offense at Mr. Raum's Testimony Before the Investigating Committee, Mr. Enloe Makes an Effort to Get at Witness But is Prevented.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—There was a remarkable scene yesterday in the room where the Raum investigation was proceeding. Representative Enloe, one of the prosecutors in the case, called Commissioner Raum a liar and attempted to make a personal assault upon him and was only prevented from carrying out his purpose by the interference of other members.

The utmost excitement prevailed which was quelled by the arrival of the speaker.

Mr. Enloe, who was seated at the head of the committee, was the first to rise and make an inquiry as to what had been said in the hearing of the committee.

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THE TEXAS FAMINE.

Two Thousand People Reported to Die Starvation on the Rio Grande Border.

THE PEOPLE'S PROCEEDINGS CONSIDERED FOR CONVENTION OF THE BORDER.

In the senate on the 26th the bill to amend the act approving the funding act of Arizona was taken up and a motion to strike out the provision that bonds shall be payable in gold and silver was made.

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WILLIAM ASTOR DEAD.

The Scandalous Old Daughter, Mrs. Coleman Drayton, Said to Have Been the Cause of His Death.

THE SCANDALOUS OLD DAUGHTER.

NEW YORK, April 27.—A special to the Evening World from Paris states that William Astor died last night at Hotel Liverpool.

The cause was heart failure. He was 82 years of age. He was a member of the Astor family.

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